

Tech Crunch: Facebook, Reddit, Google, LinkedIn, Microsoft, Twitter and YouTube issue joint statement on misinformation (03/16)

In an unprecedented move to reassure customers and flag the potential for misinformation about COVID-19 on their platforms, all of the major social media companies and their parent corporations issued a joint statement on their efforts.

Forbes: Facebook Deleting Coronavirus Posts, Leading to Charges Of Censorship (03/17)

“Facebook is blocking COVID-19 posts from fact based sources,” a Facebook friend who noticed it told me. “Facebook is hiding these posts. At the time of viral pandemic this shouldn’t be happening...” Multiple others have experienced the same thing, and it’s the day after Facebook, along with Google, Twitter, Microsoft, LinkedIn, and Reddit issued a joint statement on combatting misinformation on their platforms. That’s a good thing, as long as what they’re targeting actually is incorrect or spammy information, and not quality reporting from generally recognized sites.

NPR: Self-Isolation Orders Pit Civil Liberties Against Public Good In Coronavirus Pandemic (03/17)

But one of the nation's top quarantine experts says the San Francisco area orders are likely to be challenged in court and judges will have to balance individual civil liberties and constitutional rights against the need to protect public health.

Mercury News: Coronavirus: San Jose orders gun store to close in one of first enforcement against businesses open under shelter order (03/19)

But after customers lined up around gun stores in several counties Tuesday — including outside the Bullseye Bishop in San Jose — San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo declared that “gun stores are non-essential....” Law enforcement officials confirmed Wednesday that they shut down the Bullseye Bishop with little fanfare, in one of the first enforcement actions taken in San Jose on the initial day of the shelter-in-place order.

Union Leader: Judge upholds governor's power to ban large gatherings (03/20)

A Superior Court judge on Friday dismissed a lawsuit challenging the governor’s authority to ban public gatherings of more than 50 people because of the risk posed by COVID-19.

NBC Bay Area: Castro Valley Gun Shop Closes After Warning from Sheriff (03/20)

A gun shop in Castro Valley that was defying the stay-at-home order shuttered its doors to customers Friday after the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office warned the owner that he would be cited if he kept his business open.

Politico: DOJ seeks new emergency powers amid coronavirus pandemic (03/21)

The Justice Department has quietly asked Congress for the ability to ask chief judges to detain people indefinitely without trial during emergencies — part of a push for new powers that comes as the novel coronavirus spreads throughout the United States.

[Seattle Times: New coronavirus monitoring program launched in Seattle based on home-test kits \(03/23\)](#)

Health officials in King County are launching a new surveillance program to better track the spread of COVID-19 – and they’re asking residents to volunteer their noses for the effort.

[Talking Points Memo: COVID-19 Spikes Calls To Suicide Hotlines Nationwide \(03/25\)](#)

Kathy Marchi, director of Boston’s Samaritans, which runs a crisis hotline, told TPM that her group had seen calls go from an average of 150-175 per day to a whopping average of 250...The increase is partly a reflection of how suicide hotlines work in the United States. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline serves as a main national network for crisis hotlines, with its number leading to different call centers within its network.

[WDEL Delaware: Delaware gun sales surge before, during COVID-19 pandemic \(03/25\)](#)

Tuesday, a ban on non-essential business operations took effect under Governor John Carney's amendment to the COVID-19 State of Emergency. Gun shops would fall under the sporting goods category, which are deemed non-essential... Hague said while he is not an attorney, he believed that ordering a gun store to shut down could be a violation of provisions of the Delaware Constitution (Article 1, Section 20), as well as not be in compliance with the Second Amendment.

[NRA-ILA: Breaking: NRA & Other Groups Sue California \(03/27\)](#)

Today, the National Rifle Association (NRA) joined individuals, retailers, and other gun rights groups in filing a federal lawsuit challenging state and local policies and enforcement practices that violate Second and Fourteenth Amendment rights. The gun rights groups includes the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF), the California Gun Rights Foundation (CGF), and the Firearms Policy Coalition (FPC).

[OC Register: 1 surfer cited, but most people compliant at closed, restricted beaches \(03/28\)](#)

Each beach community — popular Los Angeles County beaches like Zuma and Santa Monica, the South Bay to Long Beach, Orange County – had beefed up lifeguards and police on the sand and pathways to either enforce complete closures or, for areas still open, remind beachgoers of social-distancing rules amid coronavirus concerns.

[Washington Examiner: Suicides outpacing coronavirus deaths in Tennessee, data says \(03/29\)](#)

More people died of suicide in a single Tennessee county last week than of the coronavirus across the entire state, according to one local official.

Fox 13 Tampa Bay: Tampa megachurch pastor arrested after leading packed services despite 'safer-at-home' orders (03/30)

Howard-Browne, 58, turned himself in Monday afternoon after Sheriff Chad Chronister and State Attorney Andrew Warren on Monday announced an arrest warrant had been issued for charges of unlawful assembly and violating public health emergency rules of isolation and quarantine. Howard-Browne was released 40 minutes later after posting a \$500 bond.

NBC 10 WJAR: Rhode Island starts to pull over vehicles with out-of-state plates (03/30)

Following an executive order by Governor Gina Raimondo, non-residents are being stopped on the road and being told they must self-quarantine for 14-days if they plan to stay in Rhode Island.

NRA-ILA: California Gun Rights Lawsuit: Part II (03/31)

The National Rifle Association (NRA) joined other individuals, retailers, and gun rights groups in filing a federal lawsuit on Tuesday challenging local policies and enforcement practices that violate Second and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

ABC 2 Baltimore: Police shut down church service during Sunday service in Baltimore (03/30)

“We had approximately 8-9 police officers show in five patrol right in the middle of my sermon believe it or not. My security stopped the police officers at the door of the church and told them they could not come into the church,” Rev. Gwynn Sr. said.

Politico: New York City to shut down worship services as coronavirus spreads (03/27)

“You’ve been warned. You need to stop services. Help people practice their faith in different ways, but not in groups, not in gatherings that can endanger people,” de Blasio told reporters Friday.

CNN: Second pastor charged with violating public orders says church doors will still be open on Sunday (04/01)

For the second time in two days, police have charged a pastor with defying public orders against large gatherings by holding church services with hundreds of members. And despite the charge, he says the church doors will still be open Sunday.

CNN: Ankle monitors ordered for Louisville, Kentucky residents exposed to Covid-19 who refuse to stay home (04/03)

Kentucky is taking severe measures to ensure residents exposed to the coronavirus stay at home. Louisville residents who have been in contact with coronavirus patients but refuse to isolate themselves are being made to wear ankle bracelets.

AP: Teenager allegedly threatened with jail over COVID-19 posts (04/03)

A 16-year-old Wisconsin high school sophomore who had symptoms of the coronavirus and posted about it on social media was ordered by a sheriff's deputy to delete the posts and threatened with being taken to jail, her attorney said Friday.

NBC News: Police see rise in domestic violence calls amid coronavirus lockdown (04/05)

Of the 22 law enforcement agencies across the United States that responded to NBC News' request for data on domestic violence calls, 18 departments said they had seen a rise in March. Houston police received about 300 more domestic violence calls in March than they did in February, a roughly 20 percent increase. Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina, police fielded 517 additional calls about domestic violence in March compared to the same month last year, an 18 percent jump, while Phoenix police received nearly 200 more calls, an increase of nearly 6 percent.

LA Times: L.A. suicide hotline sees rise in coronavirus-related calls. Counselors feel the pain (04/05)

As cases mount across the country, topping 300,000 on Saturday, so too do fear and anxiety — over getting COVID-19, over loved ones who have it, over jobs lost because of it. With each day of uncertainty that passes, mental health services are becoming increasingly vital. And strained.

Bloomberg: Facebook Expands Location Data Sharing With Covid-19 Researchers (04/06)

The world's largest social network shares anonymized, aggregated location information as part of an effort to study disease outbreaks, and more than 150 organizations partner with the company to use that data for research. Facebook is adding new data points for researchers fighting Covid-19, including information about whether people are staying at home, and other material that details "the probability that people in one area will come in contact with people in another," the company said Monday.

NY Times: Supreme Court Blocks Extended Voting in Wisconsin (04/06)

The question for the court was, the majority wrote, a technical one: Was a federal judge entitled to change a state's absentee-voting procedures just days before an election? The answer, the majority said, was no. "Extending the date by which ballots may be cast by voters — not just received by the municipal clerks but cast by voters — for an additional six days after the scheduled Election Day fundamentally alters the nature of the election," the opinion said.

NY Post: Illinois couple dead in murder-suicide after man feared they had coronavirus (04/07)

An Illinois man who feared he and his girlfriend had contracted coronavirus fatally shot the woman before turning the gun on himself last Thursday night, authorities said.

The Oakland Press: Judge suspends enforcement of sex offender registry during COVID-19 outbreak (04/07)

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, a federal judge has ordered officials to not enforce rules of the Michigan Sex Offender Registry Act for now.

Politico: Kushner's team seeks national coronavirus surveillance system (04/07)

White House senior adviser Jared Kushner's task force has reached out to a range of health technology companies about creating a national coronavirus surveillance system to give the government a near real-time view of where patients are seeking treatment and for what, and whether hospitals can accommodate them, according to four people with knowledge of the discussions.

NY Times: A 'Liberty' Rebellion in Idaho Threatens to Undermine Coronavirus Orders (04/07)

The meeting, which appeared to violate orders by Gov. Brad Little of Idaho to avoid group gatherings, was an assertion of what Mr. Bundy said was a constitutional right to peacefully assemble. But Mr. Bundy said he also hoped to create a network of people ready to come to the aid of those facing closure of their businesses or other interference from the government as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

Twitter: Elizabeth NJ Police (04/08)

Regarding comments on drones, we are trying to save lives, not be big brother. If this plan saves 1 life, then its worth it. All its doing is spreading an automated notice about social distance. No recording or pictures are taken, just a tool of encouragement to follow the rules.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution: Lawsuit argues postage cost to vote by mail in Georgia is a poll tax (04/08)

A lawsuit filed Wednesday says the price of postage for voting by mail in Georgia is an unconstitutional poll tax because it makes voters pay to cast a ballot. The federal lawsuit by Black Voters Matter asked a judge to require election officials to provide returnable envelopes with prepaid postage for absentee ballots and absentee ballot request forms. Ballot postage costs voters at least 55 cents for a first-class stamp, or more for longer and heavier ballots. Georgia's May 19 primary election will rely heavily on voting by mail because of the danger of spreading the coronavirus at in-person precincts.

Lansing State Journal: COVID-19 shutdowns push jury trials back, threaten to violate speedy trial rights (04/09)

The shutdowns caused by the novel coronavirus have thrown a wrench into Michigan's criminal justice system, causing delays that could lead to the violation of people's constitutional rights.

The Family Foundation: VA pro-life sidewalk counselor charged with criminal offense (04/09)

Never mind that there were far fewer than 10 people there, who observed proper “social distancing” the entire time, and were providing needed services and medical care via ultrasounds. According to these police officers, who could not be persuaded otherwise, she was committing a *criminal offense* of “Failure to comply with Governor’s Executive Order 55.”

Bloomberg: Apple, Google Bring Covid-19 Contact-Tracing to 3 Billion People (04/10)

Apple Inc. and Google unveiled a rare partnership to add technology to their smartphone platforms that will alert users if they have come into contact with a person with Covid-19. People must opt in to the system, but it has the potential to monitor about a third of the world’s population.

NY Post: More than 1,500 NYC inmates have been released during coronavirus crisis (04/10)

Mayor Bill de Blasio’s office announced Friday that more than 1,500 inmates have been released from city jails in three weeks — shrinking the number of incarcerated to its lowest level in 70 years.

MIT Technology Review: Apple and Google are building coronavirus tracking into iOS and Android (04/10)

Apple and Google are jointly building software into iPhone and Android devices to help track the spread of coronavirus by telling users if they contacted an infected person and are potentially sick themselves. The new project is slated for release in May.

Washington Free Beacon: Gun-Rights Groups Sue Massachusetts Over Gun Store Shutdowns (04/10)

The gun-rights activists said the governor's shutdown order violates the Second Amendment by effectively banning the lawful purchase of guns and ammunition in the state. They asked the United States District Court for Massachusetts to strike down the order and allow gun stores to reopen.

The Blaze: Michigan Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer bans travel between households statewide (04/10)

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) has directed residents to remain in their homes — and to stop traveling between residences in the state.

Wall Street Journal: Here’s How Apple and Google Plan to Track the Coronavirus Through Your Phone (04/11)

The tech giants on Friday said they will release tools for software developers to create so-called contact-tracing apps that record when smartphones come into close contact with each other. Such apps could warn users if they were nearby someone later diagnosed as positive for Covid-19.

Alliance Defending Freedom: Watch: Why David Benham and 3 Pastors Were Arrested Outside of an Abortion Clinic (04/13)

While abortion facilities in Charlotte, North Carolina, have been allowed to continue operating during the COVID-19 outbreak, pro-life groups have not been afforded the same opportunity.

Bloomberg Law: Pennsylvania Covid-19 Rules Survive Constitutional Challenges (04/14)

The petitioners claimed that the executive order violates the takings clause of the U.S. Constitution because it completely prohibits them from using their property. Disagreeing, the court said the closures are an appropriate use of the governor's police powers to protect the people, and are only temporary.

The Blaze: California churches sue Gov. Gavin Newsom over coronavirus social distancing order (04/14)

A group of churches in California is suing California Gov. Gavin Newsom, along with other state and county officials, for social distancing orders that prevent churches from holding services in-person

Enid News & Eagle: Lawsuit alleges Vinita's COVID-19 stay-at-home ordinance violates constitutional rights, seeks injunction (04/14)

Lee said his concern is that the ordinance, rather than being a measure aimed at stopping the spread of COVID-19 using the least restrictive and least invasive methods possible instead is an unconstitutional violation of residents' rights, and a "24/7 mandatory lock down, subject to criminal penalties, and not merely a curfew."

KFVS 12: Heartland sheriff stands by constitutional rights during COVID-19 (04/15)

"In my county, I believe that you have the constitutional right to private entities, not public entities, to do what they want to do on their property. As long as it's not criminal and it's safe," said Bareis.

Fox News: California county's order criticized for limiting online worship: 'No singing' (04/15)

Mendocino County, a coastal county with a population of 86,000, banned churches from singing while recording online worship services, unless the individuals sang from home.

[Chattanooga: Alliance Defending Freedom Sues Mayor, City In Federal Court On Ban On Drive-In Church \(04/16\)](#)

Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys representing a Chattanooga church filed suit in Federal Court on Thursday to challenge the city's ban on drive-in church services.

[WBUR: Federal Judge Releases ICE Detainees From Bristol County On A Rolling Basis Due To COVID-19 Concerns \(04/16\)](#)

As of April 16, Judge William Young has overseen the release of 46 ICE detainees due to the coronavirus. According to court documents, remaining detainees continue living in a dormitory-style setting. The lawsuit was filed because of complaints of overcrowding.

[Washington Examiner: Maryland governor orders all residents wear face coverings in public: Violators could face fines or jail \(04/16\)](#)

The Republican governor in Maryland issued a new executive order requiring that state residents wear face coverings when they go into public spaces in an attempt to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

[Google: See how your community is moving around differently due to COVID-19 \(04/16\)](#)

These Community Mobility Reports aim to provide insights into what has changed in response to policies aimed at combating COVID-19. The reports chart movement trends over time by geography, across different categories of places such as retail and recreation, groceries and pharmacies, parks, transit stations, workplaces, and residential.

[AZ Mirror: Winslow cites business owner for trying to skirt Ducey's shutdown order \(04/16\)](#)

Winslow city officials are trying to determine whether a small business owner they accused of violating Gov. Doug Ducey's order closing nonessential businesses can keep his Native American jewelry store open now that he also sells candy bars, dog food and hay.

[MIT Technology Review: Machine learning could check if you're social distancing properly at work \(04/17\)](#)

Andrew Ng's startup Landing AI has created a new workplace monitoring tool that issues an alert when anyone is less than the desired distance from a colleague.

[NBC Las Vegas: Couple files lawsuit against governor, state over right to get married amid pandemic \(04/17\)](#)

The parties Elle, LLC., a company that owns several wedding chapels in Las Vegas, and a groom- and bride-to-be are suing Governor Sisolak, Clark County and the State of Nevada over

what the lawsuit claims is an infringement on constitutional rights by hindering their ability to hold weddings and get married.

[NPR: Did You Fall For A Coronavirus Hoax? Facebook Will Let You Know \(04/16\)](#)

In the coming weeks, Facebook users who liked, reacted to or commented on potentially harmful debunked content will see a message in their news feeds directing them to the World Health Organization's Myth busters page. There, the WHO dispels some of the most common falsehoods about the pandemic.

[Front Page Mag: Facebook Shuts Down "Open New Jersey" Protest Page for "Promoting Crime" \(04/19\)](#)

New Jersey residents hoping to emulate anti-‘stay at home‘ protests in other states including Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Utah, Wyoming and Virginia were thrown a curveball on Thursday when Facebook shut down their event page. The “Open New Jersey” rally – planned for Tuesday, April 28th at the Trenton War Memorial – was informed by Facebook that its event page violated the social media platform’s community standards. Specifically, Facebook warned that it was “coordinating harm and promoting crime.”

[ABC News: Judge doubts Kansas COVID-19 rule, blocks it for 2 churches \(04/19\)](#)

A federal judge signaled that he believes there's a good chance that Kansas is violating religious freedom and free speech rights with a coronavirus-inspired 10-person limit on in-person attendance at religious services or activities and he blocked its enforcement against two churches that sued over it.

[AZ Daily Sun: Flagstaff police see change in city's crime due to coronavirus \(04/19\)](#)

Property crime and the frequency of public intoxicant calls have increased across the city across the past three months. During their work, officers feel they cannot safely assume they have not come into contact with the virus and are preparing for the worst.

[WDRB: Louisville church to sue Mayor Greg Fischer for not allowing drive-in services during pandemic \(04/19\)](#)

A Louisville church plans to sue Mayor Greg Fischer for not allowing drive-in church services on Easter, according to the First Liberty Institute.

[ABC 15 Arizona: Queen Creek officials remove sand from skate park after receiving criticism \(04/19\)](#)

Queen Creek officials say they are removing sand that was used to fill a skate park to discourage use of the park.

[Baltimore Sun: With coronavirus spreading, Maryland Gov. Hogan signs order for expedited release of hundreds of prisoners \(04/19\)](#)

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread behind bars in Maryland, Gov. Larry Hogan has signed an executive order to expedite the release of hundreds of men and women imprisoned at state correctional institutions.

OC Register: Suicide, help hotline calls soar in Southern California over coronavirus anxieties (04/19)

In February, Levitan and her colleagues — 70 full-time staff members and 215 volunteers — took 22 calls on the suicide and disaster helplines related to coronavirus. In March, that number soared to 1,800 calls — more than an 8,000% increase.

Law 360: NM COVID-19 Religious Gathering Ban Deemed Constitutional (04/20)

A New Mexico order banning places of worship from holding gatherings during the coronavirus pandemic doesn't violate an Albuquerque church's constitutional rights, a federal judge ruled, declining to follow a ruling in a similar case in Kentucky that deemed restrictions on Easter services unconstitutional.

PJ Media: Legal Battles Over Drive-In Church Service Bans Continue Even After \$500 Fines Dropped (04/20)

Police in Greenville, Miss., ignited a national scandal by slapping \$500 fines on Christians who attended a drive-in church service where they sat in their cars with the windows up and listened to their pastor over the radio. The mayor and city council had banned drive-in services, citing the coronavirus pandemic — despite the fact that such services could not possibly spread the virus. After national religious freedom law firms and the Department of Justice (DOJ) under President Trump got involved, Greenville Mayor Errick Simmons finally dropped the ban and said parishioners would not have to pay the tickets.

Politico: Republicans attack Facebook as network shuts down anti-lockdown protests (04/20)

The world's largest social network has removed protest messages in California, New Jersey and Nebraska from its site, a company spokesperson said Monday, after days of rallies across state capitals where protesters — many carrying pro-Trump signs — called for an end to the health restrictions.

Reuters: Facebook removes anti-quarantine protest events in some U.S. states (04/20)

“Unless government prohibits the event during this time, we allow it to be organized on Facebook,” said Facebook spokesman Andy Stone. “For this same reason, events that defy government’s guidance on social distancing aren’t allowed on Facebook.”

CNN: Facebook will take down some, but not all, posts promoting anti-stay-at-home protests (04/20)

Facebook will remove some posts on anti-home protests being organized in California, New Jersey and Nebraska after consulting with officials in those states, a company spokesperson told CNN Monday.

NRA-ILA: Citing COVID-19, California Extends Ex Parte "Red Flag" Gun Confiscation Orders to 110 Days (04/20)

A state with one of the worst "Red Flag" gun confiscation laws on the books just got worse. On April 13, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra issued a guidance document on the procedures concerning certain types of restraining orders. Citing the ongoing COVID-19 panic, Becerra noted that all ex parte Gun Violence Restraining Orders (EGVROs) are to be extended 90 days past the statutory expiration date. Under state law, such orders expire after 21 days - meaning that an ex parte GVRO may now last up to 110 days. California's latest attack on gun rights and due process should serve as a warning to gun owners across the country about the dangers inherent to "Red Flag" gun confiscation laws.

Wall Street Journal: Facebook Puts Limits on Protest Organizers (04/20)

Facebook Inc. is banning posts and groups promoting anti-lockdown protests that don't comply with government health directives, as organizers of those events seek to recruit new members on social media.

Fox 8 Ohio: 'We won't tolerate this,' Geauga Sheriff files charges after large Amish party (04/20)

The sheriff said the person taken into custody was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge. The other person was issued a summons for violating the state's stay at home order.

Breitbart: Chinese-Made Drones Enforcing Social Distancing in U.S., Raises Concerns About Spying (04/20)

An MSNBC segment from late last week raised some eyebrows after it uncovered a program that some municipalities across the U.S. are partaking in, using Chinese-made drones to enforce social distancing among Americans.

Newsbuters: Stephanopoulos Urges Facebook Crackdown on Protest Organizers (04/20)

During an exclusive interview with Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Monday's *Good Morning America*, ABC's George Stephanopoulos actually urged the tech executive to crack down on people using the social media platform to organize protests against coronavirus lockdowns. Amazingly, Zuckerberg appeared to agree with the disturbing idea.

Courier Post: COVID-19 tolls grows, with more deaths and a tulip-tour shutdown (04/20)

And a South Jersey farm has reported a different sort of loss, saying people can no longer tour its tulip fields due to restrictions imposed during the coronavirus crisis...The Gloucester County

Prosecutor's Office ordered the shutdown because the tours violated an executive order imposed by Gov. Phil Murphy, a spokesman said.

[Idaho Statesman: A coronavirus yard sale? Idaho cops say woman cited for violating stay-at-home order \(04/20\)](#)

A northern Idaho woman could face jail time after police said she had a yard sale, which violated the state's stay-at-home order during the coronavirus pandemic.

[Daily Wire: WATCH: YouTube CEO: We'll Remove Any Content That Goes Against WHO Recommendations \(04/21\)](#)

Speaking on CNN's "Reliable Sources" with host Brian Stelter, YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki stated that anything that would contradict World Health Organization recommendations would be removed from the platform.

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: IUP facilities manager files suit, says school president fired him for warning about COVID-19 \(04/21\)](#)

Donald Woolslayer named President Michael Driscoll in a one-count complaint in federal court citing "retaliation for speaking on a matter of public concern" under the First and 14th Amendments.

[Reuters: Coronavirus shelter-at-home rules upend U.S. child abuse prevention system \(04/21\)](#)

A California case worker hears screaming as she tries to conduct a telephone session for a child abuse prevention agency; an Oregon doctor sees signs of abuse a teacher might have spotted days earlier.

[Reuters: Exclusive: Facebook agreed to censor posts after Vietnam slowed traffic - sources \(04/21\)](#)

Facebook's local servers in Vietnam were taken offline early this year, slowing local traffic to a crawl until it agreed to significantly increase the censorship of "anti-state" posts for local users, two sources at the company told Reuters on Tuesday.

[Washington Examiner: Coronavirus crime wave threatens to emerge from economic downturn and prisoner releases \(04/21\)](#)

"When you take away a purpose, you don't have a job, or you aren't going to work, you're sitting around — that's what I call 'idle hands, idle minds.' Bad things happen," said Sheriff Mark Dannels of Cochise County, Arizona.

[Tech Liberation: The use of technology in COVID-19 public health surveillance \(04/21\)](#)

The recently-passed CARES Act included \$500 million for the CDC to develop a new “surveillance and data-collection system” to monitor the spread of COVID-19. There’s a fierce debate about how to use technology for health surveillance for the COVID-19 crisis. Unfortunately this debate is happening in realtime as governments and tech companies try to reduce infection and death while complying with national laws and norms related to privacy.

Conservative Review: Horowitz: Why is coronavirus being used as excuse to release illegal aliens instead of send them back? (04/21)

Only one phantom right will be left standing after the nuclear war against the Bill of Rights is complete: the “right” of illegal and criminal aliens to remain in this country.

Meridian PD, Idaho: Media Release: Meridian Police Arrest Woman for Violating City Orders (04/21)

After receiving several calls to Ada County Dispatch, Meridian Police responded to Kleiner Park on April 21 2020 at around 3:50PM. Upon arrival, officers saw that metal signage and caution tape announcing the playground closure due to COVID-19, was removed. Additionally, officers observed numerous individuals gathered on the closed playground area. Officers informed those gathered several times that the play structure was closed, and that they were welcome to utilize other areas of the park if they chose. After being told to leave the playground multiple times, forty (40) year old Sarah BRADY of Meridian refused to leave and was arrested for one (1) count misdemeanor trespassing.

ABC 5: Polk County Sheriff refuses to enforce extended 'stay at home' order (04/21)

In Wisconsin, Gov. Tony Evers has decided to extend the 'safer at home' order another month, until May 26. The order was set to expire this Friday, April 24. Tuesday, the Sheriff in Polk County made an announcement of his own on social media on why he believes the local business community can reopen safely. Sheriff Brent Waak said in the post, 'I respect the constitutional rights and civil liberties of residents.'

Fox News: Long Island gang member released over coronavirus fears returns to federal lockup for ignoring social distancing restrictions (04/21)

A Long Island gang member was back behind bars for ignoring social distancing restrictions after winning a coronavirus “compassionate release.”

Time Herald Online: Coronavirus: Police order 275 people off Pacifica beach, San Mateo County sheriffs issue 650 warnings (04/21)

According to separate releases provided by the Pacifica Police Department and the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Department, 275 people were ordered off Linda Mar Beach in Pacifica and 650 people along the coastline were issued warnings for violating the shelter-in-place order.

CBS Minnesota" Coronavirus In Minnesota: Call To Prayer To Be Broadcasted 5 Times Daily In Minneapolis During Ramadan (04/21)

Ramadan begins on Thursday, in the midst of the state's stay-at-home order. Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey says the city worked with leaders in the Muslim community to have the "call to prayer" broadcast by speaker five times a day in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.

CBS News: Protest starts after Idaho woman arrested at playground closed due to coronavirus (04/22)

An Idaho woman was arrested Tuesday after police say she was violating city orders by trespassing on a city playground that was closed to stop the spread of the coronavirus. CBS affiliate KBOI-TV reports that 40-year-old Sara Brady, of Meridian, was arrested and charged with one count of misdemeanor trespassing.

Daily Caller: '37 Minutes Later': Inmates Released From Jail Due To Coronavirus Fears Keep Getting Arrested Again (04/22)

Left-wing activists and elected officials have pushed for the mass release of inmates to prevent them from contracting coronavirus, which has spread throughout crowded corrections facilities. But the mass releases have been followed by a pattern of inmates getting re-arrested shortly after getting out of jail.

The Federalist: Police Have Started Revolting Against Draconian Coronavirus Edicts From Local Tyrants (04/22)

Police chiefs from Texas to Washington are standing up against draconian orders from local leaders demanding strict adherence to extreme social distancing measures to curb the spread of the novel Wuhan coronavirus.

Fox News: Connecticut police to test 'pandemic drone' that monitors health of residents (04/22)

Police in Westport, Conn., said they will be testing a "pandemic drone" that can scan the body temperatures of residents to determine if they have fevers or other health symptoms in an effort to combat the coronavirus.... Due to potential privacy concerns, police said the drone won't go into individual private yards and it doesn't employ facial recognition technology.

OC Register: Coronavirus: Judge won't allow in-person services sought by 3 Inland churches (04/22)

A federal judge on Wednesday said he will deny a bid by three Southern California churches to hold in-person church services during the coronavirus pandemic, saying that government's emergency powers trump what in normal times would be fundamental constitutional rights.

Conservative Review: Horowitz: As cops arrest moms at playgrounds in Idaho, burglaries surge in New York (04/22)

According to the latest CompStat data from NYPD, burglaries are up 36.3 percent during the third week in April relative to this time last year. That number is simply astounding given the complete shutdown of outside activity and the universal fear of catching the virus, especially in a place like New York City. One would expect crime to drop 80-90 percent at a time like this. Yet murder and grand larceny auto have also risen sharply.

Fox News: California Highway Patrol halts protest permits after rally against Newsom's coronavirus restrictions (04/22)

After protesters at the state's capitol defied social distancing guidelines Monday, California Highway Patrol said it would no longer issue permits for gatherings on state property, including the Capitol in Sacramento.

Forbes: Google Algorithm Update: Did Google Just Censor Bitcoin? (04/22)

According to Search Engine Land, Google is rolling out a new core algorithm update in May. Christopher Jaszczynski, who is a technical on-chain analyst, speaker, and YouTuber says, "This is public knowledge. Since Google owns YouTube this is also escalating from media outlets that rely on Google traffic to bitcoin and crypto YouTubers. All big bitcoin YouTuber's including our MMCrypto channel are now being shadowbanned."

CBS 8: Woman may be charged for Saturday's San Diego protest against stay-at-home order (04/22)

A woman who organized last weekend's protest in downtown San Diego, opposing stay-at-home orders due to the coronavirus pandemic, is facing possible misdemeanor charges that could result in 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine, the woman and her attorneys said Wednesday.

WBALTV: Man charged with rape released as police search for possible other victims (04/23)

Baltimore County police are looking for other possible victims of an accused sex offender. The alleged suspect is back on the street, which has raised some questions about releasing certain suspects from jail due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Spectrum News Buffalo: Chautauqua County Leaders Raising Child Abuse Awareness During Coronavirus Pandemic (04/23)

Chautauqua County health leaders say the COVID-19 crisis has compounded an already serious problem, as the quarantine prevents children from coming in contact with those who can help identify and report their abuse.

Fox 5 SD: Judge tosses Calif. ammunition purchase law (04/23)

A federal judge on Thursday blocked a California law requiring background checks for people buying ammunition, issuing a sharply worded rebuke of “onerous and convoluted” regulations that violate the constitutional right to bear arms... “The experiment has been tried. The casualties have been counted. California’s new ammunition background check law misfires and the Second Amendment rights of California citizens have been gravely injured,” Benitez wrote in a 120-page opinion granting the group’s motion for a preliminary injunction.

[AZ Mirror: COVID-19 pandemic fuels state feuds over gun rights \(04/23\)](#)

Other constitutionally protected businesses, like bookstores that are protected by the First Amendment’s right to free speech, have not been exempted from closure, said Eric Tirschwell, the managing director of Everytown Law, the litigation arm of the Michael Bloomberg-backed gun control group Everytown for Gun Safety... The NRA says gun stores aren’t analogous to bookstores because books can be ordered online and delivered to a home, but guns generally cannot legally be shipped anywhere but to a licensed dealer, said Amy Hunter, NRA’s director of media relations.

[Fox News: Massachusetts gun store owner invokes 'God and Trump' against cease-and-desist order amid coronavirus closures \(04/24\)](#)

John Costa, owner of The Gunrunner in Middleborough, whose logo pays homage to the Second Amendment, is looking to the Constitution to defend his refusal to close his store, despite being issued a cease-and-desist order from the town on April 2.

[@RepMoBrooks Tweet \(04/24\)](#)

Meet Dr. Mike Brown, a H'ville gastroenterologist who specializes in early detection of Colon Cancer. Mike wants to treat patients, but his life-saving procedures are banned by AL's "Stay-at-Home Order." No exaggeration, cancer deaths will rise b/c Mike can't work. [#ReopenAlabama](#)

[Daytona Beach News-Journal: Coronavirus: Downtown DeLand eatery questions order banning sit-down dining \(04/24\)](#)

Price, a former city commissioner, said he thinks the order could be a violation of the Constitution.

[Daily Mail: Billionaire Trump donor Liz Uihlein says coronavirus is 'overhyped' and urges Wisconsin to end its stay-at-home order \(04/24\)](#)

In the email, Uihlein, said that Evers had violated the employees' constitutional right to work during the coronavirus pandemic and that he should be removed from office.

[Fox News: Texas county judge's coronavirus mask order faces court challenge, hundreds of protesters \(04/24\)](#)

A Texas county judge's 30-day coronavirus mask mandate is being challenged by a local doctor who claims the order requiring Houston-area residents to wear masks in public is "unconstitutional."

KFOR Oklahoma: Group of Guthrie citizens hit city with a lawsuit over Covid-19 ordinance (04/24)

A group of Guthrie residents slapped the city with a federal lawsuit on Thursdays, saying the city's 'Shelter in Place' order infringes on their constitutional rights.

NBC DFW: Dallas Salon Sent 'Cease and Desist Letter' After Defying Orders and Re-Opening (04/24)

"We have the constitutional right to be able to work to provide for our families, to pay our mortgages and I don't feel it's right to close us down for this long period of time," said Luther in an interview with NBC 5 earlier this week.

KOB Albuquerque: New Mexico mayor vows to reopen city despite lockdown order (04/24)

Cheryl Pynes, 68, co-owner of the Handbag Lady store in Grants and a storage facility, said small businesses want the right to decide if they should remain open and how they should run their business... "I'm still going to follow safety guidelines and do things differently," Pynes said. "But it's our Constitutional right."

Baltimore Sun: Controversial Baltimore police surveillance planes will take flight next week, police say, following judge's ruling (04/24)

U.S. District Judge Richard Bennett ruled that the camera-equipped airplanes do not violate privacy rights of city residents. He allowed a trial run of the flights to proceed.

SF Chronicle: Clashing rec rules vex Californians during coronavirus stay-at-home order (04/24)

In San Diego, where the county has shut down all lakes, parks, beaches and boat ramps, more than 20 residents called in to a virtual Fish and Game Commission hearing last week to assert that their "constitutional rights as Americans" give them the freedom to drive five or six hours to the Sierra.

Washington Times: Connecticut town grounds drone program to enforce social distancing guidelines, gather data (04/24)

Bowing to public backlash, a Connecticut town has canceled plans to use drones to stealthily check residents for signs of coronavirus.

CBS 8 San Diego Tweet Video (04/25)

At least three people were arrested on Saturday during a protest at Moonlight Beach in Encinitas. They were cited for violating the stay-at-home order and congregating on a closed beach.

Coronavirus lockdown has emboldened car thieves in New York City (04/25)

As of April 19, auto theft is up 63 percent in 2020, with 1,913 stolen vehicles compared to the 1,176 during the same period in 2019. For the week, it spiked 51 percent compared to the same time last year.

Daily Caller: Big Tech, Elected Officials Mimicking China's Surveillance Methods To Police Citizens Amid Pandemic (04/25)

Surveillance measures elected officials and big tech companies are taking to slow the coronavirus pandemic in the U.S. mimic some of the heavy-handed efforts China used to track and police citizens.

Townhall: Some Social Media Companies Acting Like Tyrants (04/25)

Sadly, these social media giants have been acting like bit tyrants these days by tossing aside privacy protections and promising to become content referees. Privacy is sacrosanct in America and some of these social media companies gather up as much information as they can about users for the sole purpose of selling the data to the highest bidder. That is not wrong per se, but it is wrong to violate existing law.

Texas salon owner rips cease-and-desist letter in protest of stay-at-home order (04/26)

A salon owner in Texas tore to pieces a cease-and-desist letter she received from a Dallas County judge telling her to close her business after she reopened her shop in defiance of stay-at-home orders.

Will cameras that measure body temp become common at businesses & events due to COVID-19? (04/27)

A new measure of defense against COVID-19 is coming to America. Thermal cameras monitoring your temperature when you enter a business.

ABC 23 Bakersfield: YouTube issues statement on removal of controversial video interview with Bakersfield doctors (04/27)

"We quickly remove flagged content that violate our Community Guidelines, including content that explicitly disputes the efficacy of local healthy authority recommended guidance on social distancing that may lead others to act against that guidance," said the statement. "However, content that provides sufficient educational, documentary, scientific or artistic (EDSA) context is

allowed -- for example, news coverage of this interview with additional context. From the very beginning of the pandemic, we've had clear policies against COVID-19 misinformation and are committed to continue providing timely and helpful information at this critical time."

[YouTube: Link to Dr. Erickson's Removed Video \(04/27\)](#)

This video has been removed for violating YouTube's Community Guidelines.

[Mexico Deports Nearly All Of Its Illegal Migrants Amid Coronavirus Fears, Government Reveals \(04/27\)](#)

The National Migration Institute (INM), the agency in Mexico that manages immigration, said it has been deporting immigrants from the country's 65 migrant facilities since March 21, according to Reuters. The actions are being made in order to comply with safety and health guidelines amid the coronavirus pandemic.

[San Francisco counties extend shelter-in-place orders through the end of May \(04/27\)](#)

The directives, which were initially set to expire on May 3, will ease restrictions for a limited number of low-risk activities, public health officers from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties said in a joint statement.

[WATCH: Police Force 93-Year-Old, Socially Distancing Couple To Stop Sitting On Chairs At Beach \(04/27\)](#)

On Sunday, a 93-year-old couple sitting on folding chairs they had brought to a beach in Oxnard, California, got a rude awakening to the draconian policies implemented by the state when a policeman approached them and asked them to get off the chairs and sit on the ground if they wanted to remain where they were, despite the fact that they were far from any other people. The reasoning of the policeman was that the folding chairs indicated the couple were creating a permanent place as opposed to the temporary nature of sitting on the sand itself.

[NY Times: Top E.R. Doctor Who Treated Virus Patients Dies by Suicide \(04/27\)](#)

A top emergency room doctor at a Manhattan hospital that treated many coronavirus patients died by suicide on Sunday, her father and the police said.

[NY Times: Detroit Students Have a Constitutional Right to Literacy, Court Rules \(04/27\)](#)

A major ruling in a lawsuit involving the Detroit public schools comes at a time when school shutdowns are expected to affect poor children most adversely.

[The Federalist: DOJ Instructs U.S. Attorneys To Lookout For State And Local Governments Violating Civil Liberties \(04/27\)](#)

U.S. Attorney General William Barr instructed U.S. attorneys to monitor cases of state and local governments infringing on citizens' civil liberties Monday as municipalities remain on lockdown nationwide amid the pandemic over the novel Wuhan coronavirus.

WHSV: Judge says Lynchburg indoor gun range can reopen despite COVID-19 closures (04/27)

A judge has granted an injunction, saying a Lynchburg gun range is exempt from Governor Ralph Northam's Executive Order 53, which mandated the closure of many non-essential businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic... A lawsuit was filed by the Virginia Citizens Defense League, Gun Owners of America, and SafeSide Tactical, arguing the governor's executive order to close non-essential businesses, specifically indoor gun ranges, is unconstitutional.

CBS 2 Chicago: State Rep. Darren Bailey Says Gov. Pritzker's Stay-At-Home Order Extension Violates Constitution (04/27)

A judge on Monday granted a request by Illinois state Rep. Darren Bailey to halt a 30-day extension of Gov. JB Pritzker's stay-at-home order to fight the novel coronavirus... Bailey (R-Xenia) claimed in the lawsuit filed last week that Pritzker has exceeded his authority and is violating the civil rights of the state's residents by extending the stay-at-home order for an additional 30 days, through May 30.

Washington Examiner: Firebrand lawyer leading crusade to reopen churches calls all shutdowns unconstitutional (04/28)

The 64-year-old chairman of Liberty Counsel, a nonprofit legal group he founded in 1989, has, in the past month, emerged as a sharp critic of orders issued in many states limiting the number of people who can gather in person at church services. These orders, Staver told the *Washington Examiner*, are clear violations of the First Amendment — and amount to the establishment of a governmental faith, with its central tenet being “micromanaging the form and practice of worship.”

ABC 7 Detroit: 5 Michigan businesses sue Gov. Whitmer claiming executive orders violate constitutional rights (04/28)

A lawsuit has been brought against Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Robert Gordon, claiming that executive orders in place due to the coronavirus pandemic have violated the constitutional rights of several businesses. Lawyers for the plaintiff's announced the lawsuit Tuesday.

Lexington Herald Leader: Attorney general calls Beshear's COVID-19 travel ban unconstitutional in KY lawsuit (04/28)

Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron has filed a motion in federal court in which he calls Gov. Andy Beshear's coronavirus travel restrictions unconstitutional, according to court records.

[Trucking Info: Utah Wants Drivers Entering State to Complete COVID-19 Info Form \(04/09\)](#)

Anyone entering the state of Utah via highway, including truck drivers, will be required to fill out an electronic form regarding COVID-19 as of April 10.

[AZCentral: Governor's Good Samaritan order makes it harder for families to sue nursing homes over COVID-19, experts say \(04/26\)](#)

John Osborne, a Phoenix personal injury and wrongful death attorney and a managing partner in the Goldberg & Osborne law firm, called Ducey's executive order an attack on a consumers' rights and "blatantly unconstitutional."

[NY Times: Exclusive: U.S. Medical Testing, Cancer Screenings Plunge During Coronavirus Outbreak-Data Firm Analysis \(04/28\)](#)

Routine medical tests critical for detecting and monitoring cancer and other conditions plummeted in the United States since mid-March, as the coronavirus spread and public officials urged residents to stay home, according to a new report by Komodo Health.

[KGET: Lawyers, business owners send letter to Kern supervisors arguing stay-at-home order is unconstitutional \(04/28\)](#)

A letter sent to the Board of Supervisors by a group of local attorneys and business owners argues the stay-at-home order issued to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus and which closed numerous businesses and banned gatherings is unconstitutional.

[NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio Tweet \(04/28\)](#)

My message to the Jewish community, and all communities, is this simple: the time for warnings has passed. I have instructed the NYPD to proceed immediately to summons or even arrest those who gather in large groups. This is about stopping this disease and saving lives. Period.

[Reuters: Most Americans cannot or will not use COVID-19 contact tracing apps: poll \(04/29\)](#)

Just 43% of smartphone users polled expressed "a great deal" or "a good amount" of trust in Google and Apple and other tech companies, while 47% expressed trust in health insurers, 56% in universities and 57% in public health agencies, the poll found.

[AP: Memo says California governor will order all beaches closed \(04/29\)](#)

Gov. Gavin Newsom will order all beaches and state parks closed Friday after tens of thousands of people flocked to the seashore last weekend during a heat wave despite his stay-at-home order, according to a memo sent Wednesday evening to police chiefs around the state.

NJ: N.J. lockdown protest organizer faces charge she violated coronavirus ban on gatherings (04/29)

A 48-year-old woman who authorities called the leader of a protest Tuesday in Trenton demanding Gov. Phil Murphy reopen the state despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic was issued a summons accusing her of violating the state's lockdown orders, the State Police said.

Montrose Press: Suit takes aim at Polis order (04/29)

A San Miguel County resident wants the federal court to find that Gov. Jared Polis' stay-at-home order issued in the wake of the declared COVID-19 pandemic violates the U.S. Constitution.

KCRA: Northern California county 1st to ease stay-home orders (04/30)

Sparsely populated Modoc County in California's northeast corner plans to allow the reopening of its schools, hair salons, churches, restaurants and the county's only movie theater Friday, becoming the first county in the state to ease out of stay-at-home orders and flout the governor's mandate.

Hawaii News Now: 500 Hawaii inmates released early over fears of COVID-19's spread in overcrowded facilities (04/30)

Most are nonviolent offenders who have been locked up for minor offenses. But prosecutors said inmates convicted of sex crimes — like Jordan Cortez — also were let out... Cortez a former A-Plus leader at Ewa Elementary School was serving six months for sexually assaulting an underage girl. He was supposed to be locked up until July but a judge released him temporarily two weeks ago due to the pandemic.

Daily Caller: BOVARD: Google Is Pulling Off A Massive Data Heist During The Coronavirus Pandemic (04/30)

According to a lawsuit filed by New Mexico's attorney general, Google is collecting data on students' personal locations, websites they have visited, YouTube videos they watched and their voice recordings. Google is able to do this because more than half of the nation's public schools — and more than 80 million people around the world — use free Google education apps like Gmail and Google Docs. More than 25 million students and teachers also use Chromebooks.

Breitbart: California: Sex Offender Rearrested for Sex Crimes After Release from Jail (05/01)

One of seven "high risk" sex offenders released from prison in Orange County, California, by Court Commissioner Joseph Dane has already been rearrested weeks later for sex crimes.

AZ Central: Wickenburg police order restaurants defying state order to clear their dining rooms of customers (05/01)

Police officers in Wickenburg, armed with copies of Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey's executive order, entered two downtown restaurants that opened for breakfast on Friday and told the managers that they would have to clear the dining rooms of customers.

AZ Central: Businesses vowed to defy Ducey's stay-home orders. Today, some are following through (05/01)

The owner of The Barbershop in Yuma posted on Facebook that officers from that city's police department came into the shop just before 12:20 p.m. Officers informed the owners they were in violation of the statewide order and faced problems from city officials if they continued to stay open, the post said.

Politico: How the virus could boomerang on Facebook, Google and Amazon (05/01)

The virus "has unmasked how big and powerful these companies are," said Rachel Bovard, a senior adviser to the Internet Accountability Project, a conservative group partially funded by Oracle that is pushing for antitrust tech probes. "It's proving that the antitrust scrutiny is either warranted or should be enhanced. ... It will be especially true when we get on the other side and look at the wreckage of small businesses."

The Hill: Governor closes all roads leading into New Mexico city grappling with coronavirus outbreak (05/01)

The governor said in a statement that starting Friday at noon she is closing all roads leading into Gallup from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. daily and that vehicles can only have two people maximum. Residents of the city are encouraged to stay in Gallup except for emergency outings and trips essential for health, safety and welfare.

Patch: Man Charged As Serial Rapist Released From Jail (05/01)

Last Friday, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Thomas Reardon ordered Vien released without bail to prevent him from possibly being exposed to coronavirus. Vien's lawyer, Melissa Adams, made a motion for his release.

ABC 6: 'It's a lawless city': Philadelphia merchants alarmed by mobs of people shoplifting (05/01)

A group of 20 merchants in Philadelphia say policies set forth by the city during the COVID-19 pandemic has caused an alarming epidemic of shoplifting, and in some cases, mobs of people.

Baltimore Sun: State delegates, pastors and businesses file lawsuit against Hogan seeking to end coronavirus restrictions (05/02)

The lawsuit argues that the governor's orders banning large gatherings and closing most businesses violate constitutional and federal laws protecting commerce, freedom of assembly, the right to protest and the right to practice their religion.

Herald News: Brown extends Oregon coronavirus state of emergency to July 6 (05/02)

The new executive order gives the governor the legal authority to maintain the orders she's issued thus far — including the stay-home order, a moratorium on residential and commercial evictions and other financial stimulus measures — and issue new ones as she sees fit, said Charles Boyle, a spokesman for the governor's office.

AZ Central: These Arizona sheriffs say they won't enforce governor's stay-at-home order. But they don't expect a free-for-all (05/02)

The sheriffs, Doug Schuster of Mohave County, tucked along the Colorado River, and Mark Lamb of Pinal County, made their comments separately. But Schuster said in a Friday phone interview that he had spoken with Lamb about their mutual feelings regarding the governor's order.

ABC 13: Harris Co. Judge Lina Hidalgo signs new stay-at-home order extending until May 20 (05/02)

Hidalgo announced that non-essential Harris County businesses and others that were not reopened by Gov. Greg Abbott's order are to remain closed through May 20.

ABC News: Justice Dept. files statement supporting church in legal battle over coronavirus lockdown (05/03)

In a statement, Stillwater City Manager Norman McNickle said that in three hours on May 1, while face coverings were mandatory inside stores in the city, employees were "threatened with physical violence" by people who "cite the mistaken belief the requirement is unconstitutional." One person even threatened an employee with a gun for asking them to wear a mask, according to McNickle.

OANN: Conservative Commentator Candace Owens Suspended From Twitter After Criticizing Gov. Whitmer (05/03)

In her now deleted post from Friday, Owens said, "Apparently Governor Whitmer believes she is a duly elected dictator of a socialist country." She then called on Michiganders to defy the Democrat governor's stay-at-home orders and "go to work."

NY Post: Man arrested 3 times in a day released each time over coronavirus fears (05/03)

A man in California was arrested three times over the course of 12 hours on Wednesday — including for allegedly leading officers on a pursuit — and was only given citations and released each time due to the statewide zero-bail policy amid the coronavirus outbreak, according to officials.

LA Times: Rural areas have a message for Newsom: One size doesn't fit all in reopening California (05/04)

Assemblyman James Gallagher (R-Yuba City), a rice farmer, says: “We’re not saying all of California is ready to open, but we are. We’ve met the [governor’s] criteria. The dynamics have changed a lot. This doesn’t make sense anymore.”

The Hill: No states have met key criteria to reopen safely, expert says (05/04)

Several states across the country are beginning to lift lockdown measures meant to stop the spread of COVID-19, but an infectious disease epidemiologist testified before lawmakers Wednesday, warning no states have met the center’s criteria to safely reopen.

Washington Post: DOJ claims Virginia governor is violating religious freedom with pandemic order (05/04)

The DOJ “statement of interest” says the Lighthouse Fellowship Church on Chincoteague Island has a “strong case” that its First Amendment rights have been abrogated by an order banning gatherings of more than 10 that applies to churches but not some secular businesses such as liquor stores and professional offices.

M Live: Congressman sues Whitmer over stay-home orders, claims constitutional rights violations (05/04)

U.S. Rep Paul Mitchell III, R-Dryden, filed the lawsuit Monday, May 4 in Grand Rapids federal court against Whitmer and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Robert Gordon, who has also issued emergency orders amid the outbreak.

West Valley View: Neglect of Arizona schools’ capital needs violates Constitution (05/04)

School districts all over Arizona are challenged today by aging schools and inadequate funds to repair or replace them. This is a major problem for our educators and for the children they teach—and it is a violation of the Arizona Constitution, which requires the State to maintain a “general and uniform” system of public schools.

Bloomberg: Twitter Asks Users to Reconsider Before Sending Vulgar Tweets (05/05)

When someone replies to another user's post, Twitter may prompt them to reconsider their response if it includes slurs, epithets or swear words, a company spokesperson said.

KTVZ: Counties revising draft plans to reopen economy under new state requirements (05/05)

Oregon counties created a drafted framework for Gov. Kate Brown to consider reopening the state, but the governor incorporated new regional requirements, forcing counties to revise their plans.

CNBC: Millions of people are expected to fall ill with tuberculosis due to coronavirus lockdown (05/06)

As many as 6.3 million people are expected to develop TB as cases go undiagnosed and untreated between now and 2025, a study published by Stop TB Partnership on Wednesday showed, with 1.4 million people predicted to die during this time.

AP: California court denies bid to block payments to immigrants (05/06)

The California Supreme Court on Wednesday denied a bid to block the state's first-in-the-nation plan to give money to immigrants living in the country illegally who are hurt by the coronavirus.

WIBW: State officials confident a possible second Stay-At-Home Order can be handled better (05/06)

Kelly said with the speed that institutions were able to adapt to the original Stay-At-Home Order, she is confident with recent testing data and protective items that are now available, officials can be better prepared and do a better job if a second Stay-At-Home order needs to be set.

WWMT: Churches file lawsuit accusing Gov. Whitmer of violating freedom of religion (05/07)

A group of Michigan churches and church leaders filed a lawsuit against Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on Wednesday, alleging that she violated their First Amendment rights.

Salem Reporter: Salem church joins legal effort to overturn governor's COVID-19 orders (05/07)

The complaint filed by the Pacific Justice Institute argues that three executive orders issued by Brown in March to prevent the spread of COVID-19 violate constitutional protections for religious freedom as well as a provision in the Oregon Constitution.

Reuters: To keep COVID-19 patients home, some U.S. states weigh house arrest tech (05/07)

As the United States begins reopening its economy, some state officials are weighing whether house arrest monitoring technology – including ankle bracelets or location-tracking apps – could be used to police quarantines imposed on coronavirus carriers.

Newsbusters: Free Speech Alliance: Facebook Oversight Board Is Packed with Liberals (05/07)

The Free Speech Alliance (FSA), a coalition of more than 60 conservative organizations, released the following statement Thursday about Facebook's new Oversight Board and efforts to decide what content should be taken down from the site.

The FSA declared, "Conservatives warned from the start that any new oversight mechanism was fraught with danger. Our fears were well founded. This new board will damage Facebook more than it can imagine."

Newsweek: The United Nations is using coronavirus funding to promote abortion (05/08)

The plan allocates \$120 million to the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA), \$450 million to the WHO and the remaining funds to other branches of the U.N. system. UNFPA is the "responsible entity" for coronavirus actions relating to pregnancy, including access to emergency obstetric care and maternal health services. It also is tasked with ensuring access to "sexual and reproductive health services," which is U.N. parlance for abortion. According to UNFPA, "women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health choices and rights must be respected regardless of...COVID-19. This including access to contraception, emergency contraception, safe abortion where legal and to the full extent of the law, and post-abortion care."

Madison: Wisconsin DOC has released nearly 1,600 inmates so far to combat COVID-19 spread (05/08)

The vast majority — 1,447 individuals released from March 2 to May 4 — are inmates who had been detained because they violated terms of their probation, parole or extended supervision while being monitored in the community, DOC spokeswoman Anna Neal said. The inmates were being held either in a county jail or DOC's Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility.

Alpha News MN: MN Coronavirus Order Stops Breast Screenings, Defers Some Physician-Ordered Mastectomies (05/09)

Coronavirus has grabbed Minnesota by the throat, idling the economy and halting missions widely regarded as critical. To wit, breast cancer screenings ceased several weeks ago, along with related surgeries including mastectomies, the operation that removes cancerous breasts.

When the order came to stop elective surgeries, previously scheduled, non-elective mastectomies ended, pending formulation of a plan to resume.

[Tweet by Craig M. D.O. @drcraigwax \(05/10\)](#)

Why did @YouTube remove my original program interview with Dr. Vladimir Zelenko on #hydroxychloroquine and other agents for #COVID19 #Coronavirus? Is YouTube practicing medicine now? Restore it immediately @YouTube.

[Seattle Times: To reopen, Washington state restaurants will have to keep log of customers to aid in contact tracing \(05/11\)](#)

Notably, the 13 criteria that restaurants will have to adhere to in order to reopen for dine-in service includes a stipulation that they “create a daily log of customers and maintain that daily log for 30 days, including telephone/email contact information, and time in.”

[Washington Examiner: Studies show mounting deaths and mental health harm from shutdown \(05/11\)](#)

A cost-benefit analysis has defined the debate over the coronavirus lockdown from the very beginning. And now, just as critics of the lockdown predicted, we’re starting to see serious costs emerge that weren’t fully considered by shutdown proponents, both in the form of deaths from economic despair and in the societal mental health impact of long-term isolation.

[Cal Matters: Churches, gunshops and irate brides: All the shutdown lawsuits against Newsom, explained \(05/11\)](#)

Alongside the beach-goers denied, the indignant gun shop owners and the house-bound pastors, Gov. Gavin Newsom now has yet another ticked off challenger to face in court: an extremely disappointed bride-to-be...In the latest filing to challenge the state’s response to the coronavirus pandemic, Monica Six, an Orange County resident, is suing California’s Democratic governor for civil rights violations after his executive order “caused her significant financial hardship as well as ruined her idyllic wedding plans to get married in a special anniversary.”

[Washington Examiner: Liberty University, wrongly declared a virus disaster, now the ‘model’ to follow: Jerry Falwell \(05/11\)](#)

Despite some 750 media reports that Liberty University was writing COVID-19 death sentences for some 1,100 students returning after spring break, the Virginia Christian college recorded no cases with students on campus and is now holding itself up as the “model” to follow in the fall.

[Alpha News MN: Minnesota Candy Store Allowed to Re-Open Due to Personal Connection with Governor Walz \(05/11\)](#)

This has angered many other small business owners, who operate facilities which may only have 5 to 10 persons in them at a time, if customer-facing at all, but are still closed nevertheless. Others point out that weddings are being shut down with far less than 200 persons. Pictures posted to social media of the candy store after it opened showed rows upon rows of cars parked outside—filling the large parking lot.

[Tweet by Elon Musk \(05/11\)](#)

Tesla is restarting production today against Alameda County rules. I will be on the line with everyone else. If anyone is arrested, I ask that it only be me.

[AP: Twitter to label disputed COVID-19 tweets \(05/11\)](#)

The new rule is the latest in a wave of stricter policies that tech companies are rolling out to confront an outbreak of virus-related misinformation on their sites. Facebook and Google, which owns YouTube, have already put similar systems in place.

[KXAN: Texas health officials provide addresses of COVID-19 cases to law enforcement \(05/11\)](#)

The sharing of personal information regarding COVID-19 cases is permitted under Texas state law, and follows [federal guidance from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services](#), to allow for notification and treatment, as well as to protect first responders.

[Call Newspapers: Federal judge sides with St. Louis County that COVID-19 lockdowns do not violate Constitution \(05/11\)](#)

A federal judge has denied two business owners' motion for a restraining order to end the current stay-at-home orders in St. Louis, blocking efforts to reopen "nonessential" businesses shut down in the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. St. Louis County gym owner Allan Finnegan, who lives in Manchester and operates his Anytime Fitness gym there, and Cherokee Street antique store owner Cherri Elder filed a lawsuit May 4 against the county and city, respectively, seeking to overturn the stay-at-home orders, which they claim are unconstitutionally keeping their businesses closed.

[Tweet by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf \(05/11\)](#)

I won't sit back and watch residents who live in counties under Stay at Home orders get sick because local leaders cannot see the risks of [#COVID19](#) and push to reopen prematurely. Today I am announcing consequences for counties that do not abide by the law to remain closed. Non-compliant counties won't be eligible for federal stimulus discretionary funds. Instead, those funds will be allocated to counties working to stop the spread of [#COVID19](#)...

[NY Times: Amid Covid-19, a Call for M.D.s to Mail the Abortion Pill \(05/12\)](#)

For decades, the consensus has been that F.D.A. regulations require that the abortion pill be obtained in a clinic. But that's changing... Now, as stay-at-home orders further impede access to clinic-based abortions, prominent voices — including those of attorneys general from 21 states, a former F.D.A. official, and The Times editorial board — have joined calls for the F.D.A. to act.

Reason: Prager University and Tulsi Gabbard Lose Censorship Suits Against Google (05/12)

Like PragerU, Gabbard argued that Google is a public utility and, as such, should be required to maintain neutrality. But as Judge Stephen Wilson of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California observed, the First Amendment has no bearing on decisions made by private businesses. "Google is not now, nor (to the Court's knowledge) has it ever been, an arm of the United States government," he wrote.

ABC 7: Sheriff Villanueva: Castaic inmates tried to infect themselves with coronavirus by sharing water, mask (05/12)

Two groups of inmates at a Los Angeles County jail tried to infect themselves with the coronavirus by sharing water and a mask, and within two weeks 30 prisoners tested positive, authorities said Monday.

LA Times: L.A. County could keep stay-at-home orders in place well into summer, depending on conditions (05/12)

Los Angeles County's stay-at-home orders will "with all certainty" be extended for the next three months, county Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer acknowledged during a Board of Supervisors meeting Tuesday.

Fox 10 Phoenix: 'I cannot read their lips': Face mask recommendations making it difficult for deaf people to communicate (05/12)

While face masks have become the new normal by helping curb the spread of the coronavirus, it's also making hearing for the deaf and hearing-impaired community more difficult.

Kentucky: Capitol protest attendees sue Gov. Beshear over COVID-19 restrictions, enforcement (05/12)

Four people who attended a May 2 protest in front of the Kentucky Capitol have now filed a lawsuit against Gov. Andy Beshear and other state officials, accusing them of violating the First Amendment by restricting protests and threatening punishment.

App: Coronavirus in Lakewood: Rabbi who sued Gov. Murphy arrested for violating executive order (05/12)

A township rabbi was arrested and charged with resisting arrest, obstructing the law and violating Gov. Phil Murphy's executive order around 10 p.m. Monday evening, according to court records.

WTOP: Northam delays Phase I of COVID-19 recovery for Northern Virginia (05/12)

In a statement Tuesday, Northam's office said Executive Order 62 will let Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; and the towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg and Vienna (Northern Virginia Region) to remain in what's called Phase Zero until one minute before midnight on the night of Thursday, May 28.

Wall Street Journal: Coronavirus to Force California Public Universities Largely Online for Fall (05/12)

Most students at California's public universities won't be returning to classes this fall. University of California schools, which include Berkeley and UCLA among its 10 campuses, left the door open for some sort of return to campus but said all schools were preparing to be primarily online because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Pew: Fear, Isolation, Depression: The Mental Health Fallout of a Worldwide Pandemic (05/12)

Many crisis centers are reporting 30% to 40% increases in the number of people seeking help. The helpline at Provident is experiencing a tenfold increase compared with this time last year, when no national disaster was occurring. So far, the nation's most heavily used helpline, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, has not seen a spike in call volume.

NY Post: De Blasio announces 12 more miles of NYC street closures (05/13)

The city will convert another 12 miles of streets into pedestrian and bicycle-only thoroughfares, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Wednesday.

Yahoo News: Michigan: rightwing militia groups to protest stay-at-home orders (05/13)

Rightwing militia groups in Michigan plan to rally at the state capitol building on Thursday to protest Democratic governor Gretchen Whitmer's stay-at-home orders that she put in place to slow the deadly spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Hill: Experts sound alarms about security as states eye online voting (05/13)

Delaware, New Jersey and West Virginia are planning to allow overseas military personnel and voters with disabilities to return their ballots electronically for elections this year amid concerns about voting during a pandemic.

Daily Caller: Shootings In Chicago Increase Despite Stay-At-Home Orders (05/13)

Crime is down in the city, but Chicago is experiencing a rise in gun violence. This rise comes despite Chicago being under Illinois' strictest coronavirus-related restrictions, according to CBS Chicago.

Tweet by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser (05/13)

Based on the data, I can revise this order at any time to reflect a phased reopening. We will, until such time, extend to June 8, 2020. #StayHomeDC

Daily Wire: Maryland To Begin 'Stage One' Of State Reopening On Friday, Max 50% Capacity For Churches Encouraged (05/13)

During a press conference on Wednesday, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan announced that the state will begin to lift restrictions put in place in reaction to the COVID-19 on Friday evening.

Daily Wire: Virginia Gov Asks For Help Enforcing Continued Lockdown. Sheriff Says No Way (05/13)

A Virginia sheriff has rejected a request by Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam to help enforce a mandatory lockdown on certain businesses in the northern part of the state.

CBS San Francisco: Resentment Builds When COVID-19 Reopening Rules Apply To Some Businesses, But Not Others (05/13)

The resentment can be seen at the corner of Telegraph and Ashby, in Berkeley. "At the beginning we immediately closed our store, shut off our lights, put up messages to the community saying 'we're all in this together and we'll be back,'" said Marcy Simon, co-owner of Ashby Flowers. But even now, the tiny shop is not allowed to bring flowers outside for curbside pickup by customers. It's legal in the rest of Alameda County but Berkeley has its own health rules that say florists can only deliver. Meanwhile large Whole Foods Market right next to it—which also sells flowers—has a long line of people waiting to get inside.

CBS Miami: Miami-Dade County Announces 'The New Normal' Plan (05/14)

That's the title of the lengthy and highly detailed document released by the county on Wednesday that lays out rules and guidelines for restaurants, salons, retail stores and other non-essential businesses that plan to begin a gradual and limited reopening next Monday. The document calls for putting "stringent capacity and safety rules in place."

NBC New York: Mom Arrested After Confrontation With NYPD Officers Over Face Mask (05/14)

The NYPD is under fire again after a video showed police officers arresting a 22-year-old mother in the subway who they say refused to properly cover her face. Mayor Bill de Blasio condemned the confrontation in a tweet, where he also shared the video that sparked the controversy

[Pew: As people use COVID-19 as weapon, U.S. states mull criminal crackdowns \(05/14\)](#)

Threats of spreading COVID-19 have occurred from coast to coast, raising questions about whether states will move to criminalize the weaponization of the novel coronavirus, the way more than half of U.S. states made undisclosed HIV exposure a crime when the AIDS crisis erupted in the 1980s. (05/14)

[Fox News: Miami Beach woman holding 'We Are Free' sign arrested for violating coronavirus order \(05/14\)](#)

According to investigators, officers spotted the protester just after 3:30 p.m. and gave her several opportunities to leave. The video shows officers taking Falkenstine into custody after, police said, she failed to comply.

[Chicago Tribune: Kane County sheriff joins nearby counties and will not enforce governor's COVID-19 orders for businesses and residents \(05/14\)](#)

The Kane County sheriff's office said Thursday it will not take any enforcement actions against a person or business for violating the governor's stay-at-home and social distancing orders. Sheriff Ron Hain's announcement comes one day after the Kendall and Grundy county sheriffs released similar sentiments, stating they will not fine or arrest people for gathering in large groups nor will they target small businesses.